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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Gunji et al

Application No.: 09/926,299

Filing Date: October 9, 2001

For: L-AMINO ACID PRODUCING BACTERIUM  
AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING L-AMINO  
ACID

Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: Steadman

Attorney Ref. No.: US-1310

Via Facsimile to: 703.872.9306

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME****Mail Stop NON-FEE AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant respectfully petitions for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) to extend the period for response to the Office Action dated July 23, 2004, which set a three-month shortened statutory period for reply, 1 month(s) to November 23, 2004.

☐ The period for response has previously been extended to

Please charge our deposit account 50-3077 the requisite fees for this petition. Also, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, necessary to maintain pendency of this application to the same deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Shelly Guest Cermak

Registration No. 39,571

U.S. P.T.O. Customer No. 38108  
Ajinomoto Corporate Services LLC  
1120 Connecticut Ave., Ste. 1010  
Washington D.C. 20036  
202.457.0284  
Date: November 23, 2004